

UP TO JUNE 20, 1968

## 2,987 U.S. Aircraft Were Downed in North Viet Nam

# VIETNAM COURIER

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### South Viet Nam MILITARY OPERATIONS

- Shelling of Saigon Kept Up: the Independence Palace Area, the U.S. Embassy and Many Enemy Nerve Centres Hit.
- My Tho Provincial Capital Attacked: 1,200 Enemy Troops Killed, Wounded or Captured; a Puppet Battalion Completely Wiped Out; Another Heavily Depleted.
- Serious Losses Inflicted on 6 Puppet Battalions Near Can Tho on June 7 and 10.
- 9 Enemy Positions in Khe Sanh Sector Simultaneously Attacked, More Than 200 G.I.'s Put out of Action.

PAGE 8

### A DEADLY THREAT TO YANKEES AND QUISLINGS:

## P.L.A.F. BOMBARDMENT OF ENEMY POSITIONS IN SAIGON

A communique of Saigon-Gia Dinh P.L.A.F. command broadcast on June 9 by Gisi Phong (Liberation) Press Agency invited the inhabitants to keep clear from military bases and training centres, logistic complexes and key positions as well as ministries and departments of the puppet administration. The communique announced that P.L.A.F. artillery had received orders to go on meeting out punishment to the aggressors and traitors in their safest redoubts.

On June 11, military and strategic targets in Saigon received the heaviest shelling to date from the patriotic forces. Fired in the day time and from many directions, shells and rockets poured on the areas of Thieu's "Presidential" Palace, the U.S. Embassy, the U.S. field officers' billet, the war ministry and draft centre, the "Catinat" security centre etc....

It was the 26th bombardment of Saigon since May 5 last. Previously artillery

poundings had been mounted against the residences of Thieu, Ky, Huong (puppet premier), the National Assembly, the H.Q. of the Navy, Police and Psychowar Department, the townhall, the military harbour and storeshouses, etc.... Gorton, the visiting Australian Premier had a narrow escape on June 7, when the hotel at which he was to put up was hit by a P.L.A.F.

(Continued page 8)

### Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK:

"It is preposterous to demand that the Vietnamese, who live in their own country, accept the fait accompli of American invasion, recognize the colonial rights that the United States gives itself in Viet Nam, and renounce fighting aggression."

Page 6

WITH his backles up. Mr Harriman threatens: "Attacks on Saigon may have the most serious consequences."

Indeed, Mr Harriman does not use the same kind of logic as a common moolat. The eminent American diplomat finds it quite natural that 5,000 U.S. planes and helicopters, 2,000 artillery pieces and hundreds of war vessels bomb and shell Vietnamese territory day and night. But should the Vietnamese launch a few rockets on American airfields and military command posts set up on Vietnamese soil, he

SOME time or other, Mr Harriman, certain fundamental truths must be driven home to you. You should know that whenever a people is attacked, it has the right—I repeat: the right—to defend itself. A sacred, inalienable, imprescriptible right. The Vietnamese people will gladly welcome foreigners on their soil: tourists, men of science and culture, even businessmen. But when half a million foreigners, armed to the teeth and accompanied by thousands of tanks, planes and other engines of death, invade their land, the first

## WHAT WOULD YOU DO, Mr. HARRIMAN?

would cry out violation of the most elementary rules of humanity and justice!

Mr Harriman thinks it quite normal that 550,000 G.I.'s coming from California, Texas, Arizona or the frozen lands of Alaska pitch their tents in Saigon, Da Nang etc., and behave as if they were masters of Vietnamese land.

But should the Vietnamese want to kick those intruders out, he would loudly complain of aggression—and foreign aggression at that. A native of Mississippi is at home in Viet Nam, but anyone ill-fated enough to be born one kilometre north of that abstract line, the 17th parallel, is a... foreigner, who has no say in the matter.

reaction of any citizen is to snatch a weapon.

Any citizen—young or old, man or woman, Confucianist or Buddhist, Catholic or Marxist, Thai or Bakmar, born in Co Man or Lang Son, Hue or Haiphong. Incidentally, Mr Harriman, do you know where your man Nguyen Cao Ky was born? Indeed it would be a great deal easier for the aggressors if each man said to himself: "The foreigners are attacking only such and such groups (or: such and such provinces, in the east, or in the south), it doesn't concern our group (or our region)."

(Continued page 2)



A P.L.A.F. assault

# PARIS TALKS' FIFTH SESSION

THE ninth session of the official conversations between the representative of the D.R.V.N. Government and that of the U.S. Government took place in Paris on June 19.

Minister of State Xuan Thuy spoke first.

He denounced the obstinate attitude of the U.S. side which has so far refused to stop unconditionally the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. He said that the real nature of the U.S. representative's claims was "a restraint" and of the D.R.V.N. lack of "restraint" and his slanderous charge that the South Viet Nam Liberation Army Forces attacked the civilian population in Saigon. He continued the U.S. for having launched a propaganda campaign in which it threatened to resume the unlimited bombing of the D.R.V.N. territory.

Mr. Xuan Thuy pointed out that the so called de-escalation ordered by Johnson was in fact concentration of stepped-up air raids on a smaller area. Parallel to this escalation in the North, the increase in U.S. troop strength, the projected stepping up of the puppet army and satellite troops in the South, the request for more war expenditures made by Johnson to Congress have

betrayed the true intentions of the U.S. Government.

He condemned the U.S. aggressors' indiscriminate bombing and strafing of densely populated quarters in and outside Saigon. He said that the dropping of toxic gas bombs on Cholon area, murdering of thousands of civilians and rendering hundreds of thousands of others homeless. These odious crimes have been confirmed even by Western (including American) news agencies as well as by foreigners in South Viet Nam such as Reverend Father Francois Joseph Guimet in Cholon.

The Vietnamese chief negotiator quoted Nguyen Van Tien, Head of the Permanent Representation of the South Viet Nam N.F.N. in North Viet Nam, as declaring at a press conference in Hanoi: "Our attacks are mounted with accuracy. They are aimed at the quarters of U.S. and puppet generals, commanding posts of the army and the police, fuel and ammunition dumps. We have many times requested the inhabitants of the neighbouring district to extend from them. The vicinity of our target area has for months been declared out of bounds for the civilians by U.S. authorities."

"Though U.S. troops of aggression are still occupying Saigon," Mr. Xuan Thuy

1 — The U.S. Government must immediately stop the bombing and shelling by aircraft and warships of the port extension from Thanh Hoa to Vinh Linh of the territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

2 — The U.S. Government must immediately cease all other acts of war on the whole territory of the Democratic

Republic of Viet Nam. These are: reconnaissance flights, dropping of leaflets and so-called gifts from the air, all warfare, smuggling commodities out on its straits, from Laos, artillery shelling from the south of the demilitarized zone, violations of the territorial waters of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam by warships and motor-boats etc., in short, any military action infringing upon the sovereignty and encroaching upon the territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

3 — The U.S. Government must put a permanent end to the bombing and all other acts of war on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam without putting any conditions whatsoever on the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Only after these legitimate demands are met, can other problems of interest for both parties be discussed.

After Mr. Xuan Thuy concluded his speech, U.S. representative Averell Harriman took the floor. He once more renewed the plea that the U.S. did not seek peace on the basis of "restraint," and the like.

He repeated the slander

# THE NORTH—GREAT REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

**SUCCESSFUL DEFENSIVE AGRICULTURE OFFERED THREE YEARS OF WAR**

By PHAN QUANG

Realities have shown that the above-mentioned remarks are groundless. In the years before the U.S. war of destruction (1951-1954) the per-hectare yield in North Viet Nam was 60 per cent compared with 60 per cent under French rule. One must bear in mind that in the meantime the acreage of cropland was greatly expanded which means that a large area of poor fallow land has been put under crops again and its low productivity affected the average yield.

Farming is usually a risky proposition and crop failures are not rare but generally speaking agriculture in North Viet Nam has made promising progress in intensive culture after the Geneva Agreements in 1954, especially since the war of destruction waged by the U.S. imperialists for over three years now.

North Viet Nam is quite fertile, but irrational and backward farming which dragged on under colonialism and feudalism impoverished the masses and retarded the economic and technical progress of the people's living standard and the building of the modern and socialist new Viet Nam. It is precisely for this reason that the Party has vigorously implemented the peasants to revolutionize agriculture, improve technique and continually raise production.

This great struggle has yielded good results. While 2 districts only harvested 5 tons per hectare per year in 1954—the year before the U.S. started their war of destruction in North Viet Nam—at the end of 1957, 30 districts fulfilled that target; according to still incomplete figures, 2,500 co-operatives reaped 5 tons per hectare which 40 co-operatives reached or exceeded 7 tons and 3 co-operatives 8 tons.

With its now draw a small comparison with rice production in South Viet Nam, according to statistics well known as one of the biggest granaries in South-East Asia. According to statistics of the South Viet Nam puppet administration, in years when South Viet Nam's economy was most stable, paddy yield in 22 provinces averaged between 700 and 1,500 kg per hectare for the first crop and between 1,000 and 2,000 kg for the second one in the provinces of Trung Bo (Central Viet Nam) the corresponding figures were 1,200-2,700kg and 600-1,500kg.

WHAT are the causes of this remarkable wartime achievement of North Viet Nam?

First, it is due to the superiority of the new socialist relations of production. For success in the revolutionary war, the Vietnamese peasantry has, under the leadership of the North Viet Nam Workers' Party, embarked on the path of co-operative farming. Agriculture has never ceased to be strengthened and developed. This has made it possible to apply advanced techniques in order to boost productivity and to raise the efficiency of the fight against U.S. aggression and the protection of crops. It can be said that the success of intensive agriculture in wartime is a success of the socialist relations of production.

The basic trend of development of our agriculture is intensive farming. In order to pursue this line and to develop the role of the State in production, the government of the D.R.V.N. has over the past few years constantly been helping the peasants to increase their equipment and technical knowledge. Hydraulic works have been stepped up, the price of cropland have been provided

• Electric engineering workshops in Hanoi have overfulfilled their May 1958 plan. The gross output value was 1.1 per cent above the norm of the preceding month.

• In the past few years, in North Viet Nam buffaloes have lost the price of pigs by 3.5%, horses by 8.5% and goats by 24% per year on the average.

• Recently the government of the D.R.V.N. has decided to publish the first part of a series of books by 20 per cent. It was the fourth part cut off below within ten years.

• President Ho Chi Minh has just given the order to standing teachers and 1,183 children as excellent pupils in 1957-1958 school years.

Among the teachers recommended, there were 21 women and one eighth of minority nationality; among the 1,183 pupils selected, there were 518 young men and 421 from ethnic minorities.

with irrigating facilities. As animal husbandry develops, the supply of manure also becomes steadily more abundant. Green compost, an advantage of tropical climate, such as machina, pinna, banana canna and clostraria juices have been found to be very effective for crops. New rice varieties of shorter growing time with more nitrogenous content and of high yield have been selected to replace those of the old variety.

In addition to the tremendous efforts of the peasants, industry has also supplied agriculture with a great quantity of improved farm implements such as carts and small machines, which help raise labour efficiency and yields. These initial results of the technical revolution have begun to influence intensive farming.

Another important cause of success is the revolutionary heroism of the peasants which stems from the ardent love of Fatherland and socialism and from their complete confidence in the leadership of the Party.

One can conclude that the success of intensive farming in the last few years has been the success of the first steps taken in the three stages of the socialist revolution: revolution in relations of production, in technical revolution and in ideological and cultural revolution.

## Hanoi Press Opinion

### Guerrilla Warfare in South Viet Nam Towns and Cities

THE great wave of general offensives and uprisings of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people has brought guerrilla war from mountain and rural areas deep into the hearts of towns and cities. It has been raging with particular ferocity in such big cities as Hanoi and Saigon, the last redoubts of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys.

In highly efficient variegated forms, guerrilla warfare in urban centres has become a sharp weapon which weighs heavily losses on the enemy and drives him into the greatest quagmire. Self-defence groups in Hanoi have punished many wicked things and fought back enemy offensives in such town districts as An Cuu, Nam Gio, the railway station. Brilliant soldiers distinguished themselves in the killing of great numbers of enemy soldiers. Self-defence groups in Saigon—Cholon—Gia Dinh rushed to their fighting positions immediately at the start of each battle to pin down the U.S. and puppet troops in many town districts.

Quen Dai Nhan Dan (People's Army), June 14, 1958

PRE. REPORT: — Battle cloud of Operation Delaware in A So area, S.E. of Hue, 2,500 U.S. and puppet casualties. — U.S. and puppet told in the United States of their offensives and uprisings in Saigon: 25,000 (11,000 Americans).

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# THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

## Military Operations

FOR 7 straight days, from June 10 to 16, the P.L.A.F. again poured heavy gun fire on enemy positions in 3 districts inside Saigon, the Tan Son Nhut airbase and the port area. On the other hand, Liberation infantrymen beat the enemy at the Phu Tho race track on the western fringe of the city, and in Pham, The Hien street in the South.

In the northern and southwestern edges of Saigon, the P.L.A.F. fought off all enemy relief operations and made continual attacks on various positions in Tay Ninh, Gia Dinh and Thu Dau Mot provinces. In Bien Hoa province, north-east of Saigon, in the five days ending June 10, the guerrillas and regional troops put 200 G.I.'s out of action and shot ablaze 5 tanks and 3 armoured cars when counter-attacking an enemy raid on former Resistance Zone D. On May 8, the P.L.A.F. attacked Phong Binh provincial capital and seized control of the town.

Most remarkable was the attack on My Tho provincial capital on the Mekong river, 60km southwest of Saigon, on the night of June 16: 17 positions in the town assaulted; 1,200 enemy troops killed, wounded or captured; 2 battalions of puppet Division 7, one security forces company and 2 artillery companies either annihilated or badly mauled.

A military training centre also sustained losses, and a 500,000-litre petrol dump was burnt. Binh Duc base, 4km west of My Tho, was shelled 3 times on June 4 and 17, resulting in more than 100 enemy soldiers wiped out.

Further to the southwest, in Can Tho, on June 7 and 10, the P.L.A.F. beat off 2 enemy counter-attacks, wiping out 200 advance troops, routing 5 battalions of puppet Division 21 and a Ranger battalion, and shooting down or damaging 9 aircraft.

In the northernmost sector, in Quang Tri province, in the first 18 days of June, the P.L.A.F. big gun fire 13 times plastered almost all U.S. positions at Ta Con (Khe Sanh), Con Tien, Con Viet port, Gio Linh and Cam Lo. On June 15, an enemy force moving out 18km southeast of Ta Con was violently intercepted. The engagement ended with 106 G.I.'s killed or wounded. On June 15 and 18, the P.L.A.F. hit hard at the position of Battalion 3 of the U.S. Marine Regiment 4 and 8 other hilltop positions around Ta Con, wiping out 20 G.I.'s and shooting down 2 aircraft. The enemy at Nui Ngang, 50km southeast of Da Nang, has been under siege and constant attacks since May 5. By June 7, the P.L.A.F. operating in this area had wiped out more than 1,700 U.S. troops (4 battalions destroyed or shot down 71 aircraft of different types. In a surprise attack on May 26 against a military camp parking lot near Duy Xuyen, 25km south of Da Nang, the P.L.A.F. wrecked 51 vehicles. Four days later, on May 30, an enemy 24-vehicle convoy was completely destroyed.

## Latest News

On June 20, at dawn: Heavy poundings by P.L.A.F. artillery of Tan Son Nhut air base (Saigon) and 6 other South Viet Nam military targets, including Dong Ha base close to the 17th parallel shelled 4 times and turned into a big burn on an area of 5 square kilometres.

ed in an ambush on a nearby road in Lai Lo district. American casualties ran into the hundred.

In the first 10 days of June, in the coastal fringe stretching from Da Nang to Nha Trang, the P.L.A.F. attacked the enemy in 9 provincial capitals, district towns and military subsectors and laid 4 ambushes against enemy convoys, wiping out in all 1,400 enemy troops (including 1,070 Americans), sinking or setting ablaze 16 vessels, and destroying many military vehicles. A logistic depot in the very heart of

heavily guarded Da Nang city also came under attack at noon on June 13.

The enemy was also hard hit in the Western High Plateaux. On June 6 alone, the P.L.A.F. launched simultaneous attacks against 6 enemy positions and an artillery ground in the defence system west of Poco (Kon Tum province). The assaulting forces won control of these positions, destroyed or inflicted heavy losses on 3 enemy infantry and artillery companies, and destroyed or heavily damaged 11 cannons and mortars.

## P.L.A.F. BOMBARDMENT...

(Continued from page 1)

shelling some hours before his arrival. Tan Son Nhut airport in the city's northern suburb, the Long Binh logistic base and Bien Hoa airbase, northeast of Saigon, the Nha Be tankers' harbour and the canal southeast of Saigon linking to the sea were repeatedly struck by P.L.A.F. artillery. In the 30th bombardment on May 19, the mercantile port and many warehouses packed with military goods as well as several harvests met with the same fate.

THESE artillery shellings prove that the P.L.A.F. firmly hold the initiative and are in a position to strike the enemy whenever and wherever they think fit. The "protection belt" of some forty-kilometre radius built around Saigon on the strength of over one hundred battalions of U.S. Australian, and puppet troops with the support of aircraft, artillery, armoured vehicles, radars and other up-to-date equipment is ineffective in face of the artillery of the patriotic forces. Here, leaving Viet Nam far good, Westmoreland admitted on June 10 that it was quite impossible to prevent these attacks.

With this fighting method, the P.L.A.F. can hit the enemy even in his last refuge in South Viet Nam. Combined with attacks by infantrymen,

guerrillas and insurgent people in urban centres, this bombardment has been shaking the puppet regime by creating a permanently unstable situation in the narrow area left to it. An AFP correspondent in Saigon reported that the June 11 shelling of the P.L.A.F. had thrown the enemy into utter panic and no plane could take off and no shell was fired back. The importance of the U.S. and puppet armies is once again as clear as day light.

On the other hand, this bombardment by the P.L.A.F. has given a strong fillip to the Saigonese: it has urged them to act, to rise against the oppressors and destroy their machinery of coercion.

The fact that the P.L.A.F. are today able to deploy heavy guns next to the downtown area of Saigon and then to bombard the enemy daily is a convincing proof of the local people's support for them and hate for the Yankees and their quislings. As to the accuracy and efficiency of these shellings, it is easy to find irrefutable proofs even in the enemy to bombard the enemy daily clearly itemizing the targets hit. All this conclusively gives the lie to the calumnious charges of the American authorities and their stooges that the P.L.A.F. "fire blindly" at civilians.

As early as in 1964, speaking of the bombardment of

Bien Hoa airbase on October 31 that year, Reedy, spokesman of the White House, was quoted by Western press agencies as publicly acknowledging P.L.A.F. mortar shellings of great accuracy had been concentrated on the aircraft park and U.S. barracks in that big modern airport. Four years have elapsed and one can guess what progress the P.L.A.F. gunners have made since then!

FRIGHTENED by P.L.A.F. as the U.S. aggressors call on the Vietnamese people to show "restraint" in return for U.S. "restraint". Putting aside the trickiness of the so-called "limited bombing" of the North which has rather increased in intensity, let us stress that the shelling of Saigon is a feat by South Vietnamese patriots and the continuation of this glorious attacks launched since the new lunar year; its impetuosity can in no way be checked. As the U.S. increasingly beefs up its troop strength and increases its build-up in South Viet Nam, how can it expect to "restrain" from our compatriots there.

Furthermore, what is asked from an aggressor is not to show "restraint" in his aggression but to end once for all this odious aggression. As for the victim of aggression, his right of self-defence which conforms to ethics and



P.L.A.F. artillery constantly on the move.

justice, must be exercised hundred per cent, and not fifty or seventy per cent only.

Regarding the "crimes" committed by the P.L.A.F. against the Saigon, as claimed by the U.S. aggressors, the Western press has supplied proofs to the contrary. The indiscriminate and systematic slaughter and destruction which are of daily occurrence in South Viet Nam have been deliberately caused by U.S. use of its huge fire-power. Thus, according to UPI and AFP, on May 8, two U.S. choppers fired rockets on a refugees' camp in Saigon while B 52s carried out carpet bombing on the populous periphery of that city of 3 million souls. Reuter reported the same day that these U.S. bombings and shellings had taken a toll of over 1,000 civilian casualties and destroyed at least 3,000 dwelling houses in Saigon, and that

these figures would be doubled with the addition of the havoc wrought by the fire gutting 9 populated city areas.

Interviewed by a correspondent of the English paper *Daily Telegraph* (June 13 issue), Joseph Guimet, the French priest in charge of the Saint Francis Xavier Church in Cholon, declared that the P.L.A.F. had not caused any damage to his church, a shelter for 3,000 people, though it was then occupied by puppet troops. Eighty per cent of the damage was done by U.S. helicopter firing, the priest added.

As further evidence of U.S.-caused destruction, let us mention the death of the "mayor" and of some high-ranking police chiefs in Saigon occasioned not by the "Viet Cong," but by the American aggressors themselves.